

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

The Voice Of The Highlands Since 1882

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Health issues are hot topic as candidates face the voters

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Health care concerns dominated the discussion at Tuesday night's all-candidates meeting as audience members grilled three political hopefuls on their plans to save Minden Hospital and prevent doctors from leaving the region.

Right from the first question of the night, Progressive Conservative incumbent MPP Chris Hodgson, Liberal candidate Sharon McCrae and New Democrat candidate Cathy Vainio were repeatedly asked to detail their solutions to the area's health care problems.

Bexley Township reeve Fred Brecht told the three candidates of a letter he and seven other area Reeves have sent Minister of Health Ruth Grier. The Reeves have demanded an emergency meeting with Grier to figure out how to avert what they feel will be a disastrous health care situation this summer when the region's population doubles.

Grier has yet to respond or even acknowledge the urgent request, he said.

Brecht asked each of the candidates what they would do

immediately to get the Health Minister's attention and what they would do in the next month to find a permanent solution to the ongoing hospital dilemma.

McCrae, who answered the question first, told Brecht she had already written the Liberal health critic asking her to contact Grier about Minden's health care situation, but would write again, including the Reeves' request for a meeting.

Hodgson said he has been in contact with Grier about the hospital situation in Minden, but cannot convince her to come to the county.

In the middle of an election, he said, he suspects Grier is out on the campaign trail.

"We're doing everything that is humanly possible to do to solve this," he said. "Unfortunately, I can't perform surgery. There are some doctors who moved away that caused this crisis ... But we've got to maintain health care in Minden."

Vainio chose to use her allotted time to respond to Brecht by criticizing the Reeves' method of approaching Grier rather than answering his questions.

She said the eight municipali-

See CANDIDATES page 3

Chamber joins list of Bark Lake suitors

Major corporate sponsor said to be interested in potential of leadership camp

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has thrown its hat into the ring with a growing number of groups that hope to pick up Bark Lake Leadership Centre when it is dropped by the province this summer.

The Chamber is heading a local group that wants to maintain Bark Lake's existing leadership training programs, but widen its marketing focus to a national scale.

Chamber president Brian Dean says the group has attracted the interest of a "major national corporate sponsor" that could help lift the proposal off the ground.

However, he is not yet willing to divulge the full details of the

See BARK LAKE page 3



FLYING HIGH!

She may be a senior citizen but Dorithjean Connors of Haliburton hasn't lost her spirit of adventure. In the recent past she has been hot air ballooning, gliding and dog sledding, and on Friday she added parasailing to the list. She was the first person to fly at the official opening of Highland Parasail Adventures on Friday. Above, Krista Tempest supervises liftoff from the back of the company's specially equipped boat. Attached to a winch in the boat, Mrs. Connors flew more than 200 feet above Lake Kashagawigamog, and enjoyed every minute of it. Parasailing will be a common sight on area lakes this summer, as Highland Parasail Adventures offers lodge visitors, cottagers and local residents a chance to fly high.

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Life is good 'Down Under'

Bonnie Amson and her children, Tobin and Kaelan, are certainly enjoying their year on exchange in Wagga Wagga, Australia. They've been able to see much of south-western Australia and in her letters to her parents (Carol and Bruce Amson of Allsaw) are full of news of all the good times they're having. In her last

HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

News about people and events in Haliburton County

Bob Davis will be showing a wilderness movie and slides of

his canoe trips to Canada's far north and Labrador on June 2 at St. Peter's Church in Stanhope. The evening is to raise money for the church's outreach program and everyone is welcome. It begins at 7:30 p.m.

Jim Martin of Stanhope, who was in a bad car accident several weeks ago, has "graduated" from Sunnybrook Hospital and is now a resident at St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital, 285 Cummer Ave., Willowdale, Room 445, phone 416 226-4451. Cliff Moore and other friends also send birthday greetings to Mr. Martin, who was 74 on May 25.

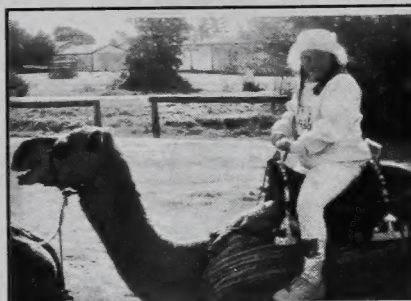
It was a bit sad when Paul Rush sold "the ugliest cottage in Haliburton" and defected to an island in the Kawartha last year. The Ryerson professor and former magazine publisher had made his cottage on Kennisis Lake quite famous (or infamous) in the pages of Cottage Life magazine. But who knows, the cottage may live again. In the recent newsletter for Ryerson journalism alumni, there's a story which says Mr. Rush is taking a year-long sabbatical so he can live at his new cottage and write a book on, what else, life at the cottage! The article says "His plan is to see whether cottage life in all seasons is a feasible option for people who enjoy their cottage in the nicer, milder Ontario months." The book - which knowing Mr. Rush's ability to turn a phrase will be very humorous - has been on the back of his mind for quite some time, but the decision to apply for sabbatical was hastened by the death of his brother, who suffered from leukemia. "The tragic event forced Rush to contemplate the fact that 'you've only got so much time to do so many things.' Living the cottage life and writing about that experience is something he has decided he must make time for."

Don't forget the Kinmount Canoe Festival this Sunday, May 28. As well as 7-km races for canoeists of all ages, there will be a decorated canoe contest and parade. The entry is \$10 per canoe and registration at the waterfront from 9:30 to 11 a.m.. Proceeds are in support of the Kinmount Heritage Parklands Project. For more information, call 705-488-3116.

CBC Radio's morning show, Ontario Morning, will broadcast people's public service announcements for free. All you have to do is phone 1-800-304-8699 and leave a message.



Tobin feeds an EMU



Kaelan rides Rosie the camel

letter, she included these two photos, one of Kaelan on a camel at the beach near Terrigal and one of Tobin with an emu.

Here are the addresses of three of the candidates in the June 8 election:

- Cathy Vainio, NDP, 24 Lindsay St. S., Lindsay, K9V 2L8, 705-328-1998 or 328-1801 and fax 705-328-0484
- Sharon McCrae, Liberal, Plaza 232, 232 Kent St. W, P.O. Box 62, Lindsay, K9V 4R8, 1-800-251-8465, Fax 705-324-5228
- Chris Hodgson, Progressive Conservative, Constituency Office, 2 King St., Lindsay, K9V 1C5, 1-800-424-2490, Fax 705-324-6938
- Brad Medd, Family Coalition Party, RR 1 Cameron, K0M 1G0, 705-887-5168.

We'd like to apologize to Anne Costeloe and the people of Gooderham for mixing up the dates of their community street sale in last week's paper. Apologizes also to Bob Sisson, who did a great job portraying an Australian bush hand in the high school production of Picnic at Hanging Rock. We wrongly identified him in last week's paper.

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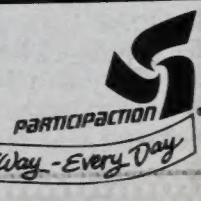
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NDP candidate feels heat over forest tax rebate, Bark Lake

From page 1

ties should have first enlisted the support of St. Joseph's Hospital in Peterborough, which owns the Minden Hospital, and MPP Hodgson before sending their request for a meeting to the Minister.

Gwen Hewitt asked the three candidates if they would vote against their party's policies in cases where it would mean better health care treatment for the community.

While none of the candidates addressed the question directly, they each said they are committed to making sure the county's health care system is improved.

Hodgson said the PC party will try to come up with solutions to make it more attractive for doctors to set up practices in rural Ontario. He also said he is looking forward to working with the new executive director of the Minden and Haliburton Hospitals on local solutions.

Vainio supports the idea of medical care being offered to patients in their homes when possible in an effort to reduce overall health care costs.

McCrae, who previously chaired the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, said health care has

long been one of her top priorities.

"We've got to have the best of care in rural communities, especially this one, because there are such a high number of seniors in this area," she said.

As topics shifted, it became readily apparent the NDP candidate was sorely unprepared for debate on a couple of key local issues.

When asked by Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce president Brian Dean to outline her stance on her party's decision to repeal the Managed Forest Tax Rebate, Vainio admitted that she did not know about the subject and "(was) not equipped to answer the question."

Both Hodgson and McCrae said their parties will reinstate the rebate.

Vainio was also uninformed of the NDP's decision to close down Bark Lake Leadership Centre, not to mention the fact that the facility is owned by the province.

Dean asked the candidates if their parties would be prepared to provide some form of "bridge financing" to allow a local group headed by the Chamber to acquire Bark Lake.

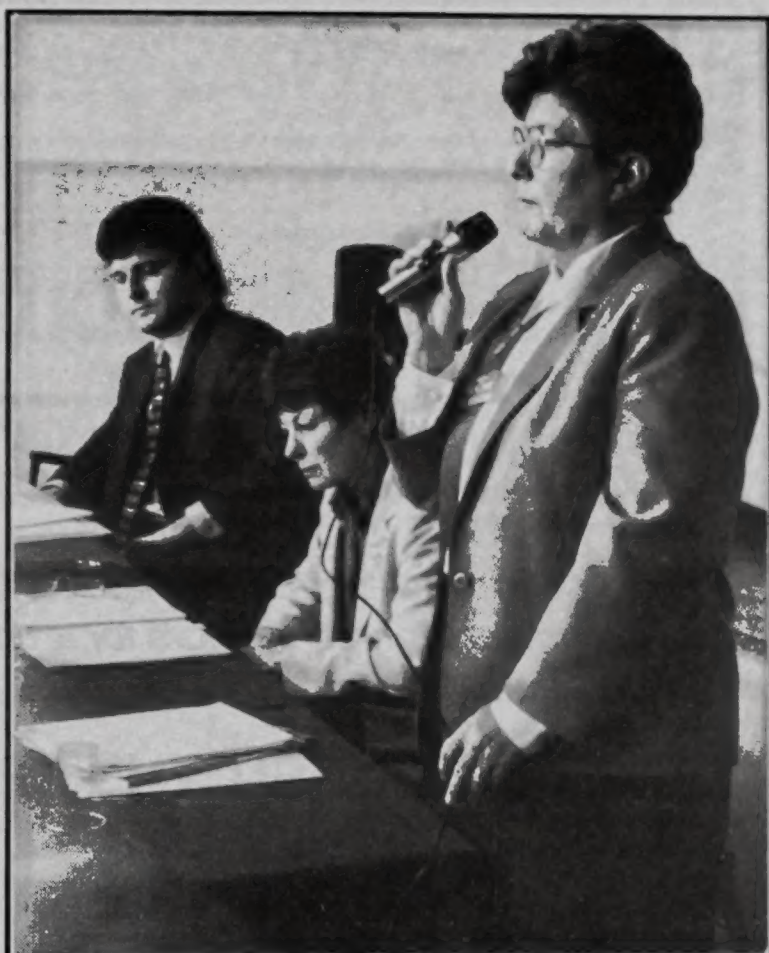
In his answer to the question, Hodgson accused the NDP of a lack of communication which apparently resulted in the Premier's office having to phone Bark Lake management last week to find out why it was receiving so many calls and letters about the camp.

Vainio argued that Bob Rae bears no responsibility to know why the centre is being closed down. She said it is up to Hodgson to bring that information to the premier's attention at Queen's Park.

"Maybe we should indulge (the NDP candidate) to let her know that Bark Lake is a government-run facility and for that reason Bob Rae should have been the first to know about (its closure)," McCrae said, amid the uncomfortable laughter of many in the audience.

George Simmons, a Bark Lake employee and the reeve of Snowdon Township, earlier went after Vainio, who had said in her opening address that the NDP is not planning "to cut and slash expenditures like the Liberals have proposed."

"Today I handed in my resignation at Bark Lake because of the cutting and slashing of (the NDP)," he told Vainio.



CANDIDATES ON THE HOT SEAT: Local voters got a chance to grill the three mainstream candidates for the last Tuesday at Highland Crest. From left: PC incumbent Chris Hodgson, NDP candidate Cathy Vainio, and Liberal candidate Sharon McCrae, answering questions from the audience of more than 100 people. The day of reckoning comes June 8, when voters cast their ballot.

County wants wants time to form Bark Lake proposal

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

County council is asking the province to give it a little more time to help put together a management team to run Bark Lake Leadership.

"We want time to explore every avenue," says Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey.

The plan is to put together some sort of management team to run the Irondale facility. This team, governed by a board of directors, would include players from different areas, such as municipal government, Sir Sandford Fleming College and the Friends of Bark Lake.

Fearrey says the province has recently invested about \$5-million in the facility and it's an important player in the county's

economy. Closing Bark Lake would have a very detrimental impact and county council wants the province to give it time to

"We want time to explore every avenue," says Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey.

come up with some alternatives to closing the facility, which the province says it will do on August 31.

Those alternatives would not involve any county dollars, but

would likely necessitate provincial "bridge financing" from September to next March as the local board gets into gear.

The camp is owned and operated by the Ministry of Recreation, Tourism and Culture. Government ministries have the first option to "buy" Bark Lake. If the facility isn't purchased by June 6, the province will offer it to the public sector.

On Wednesday, county council voted unanimously in favour of asking the province to extend that deadline by 30 days. "It's not fair at this time not to delay it," Fearrey said. "It buys us time to find other people who may want to take it over... Thirty days doesn't seem to be a long time."

Province to appraise Bark Lake before groups can make bids

Groups interested in acquiring Bark Lake Leadership Centre should have an idea of how much money they'll need to come up with in a couple of weeks.

The Ontario Realty Corporation, which is handling the Irondale facility's sale for the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, is beginning the tendering process to select a private appraisal firm to estimate

the property's value.

Bark Lake general manager Rob Heming says he has been told the Ontario Realty Corp. intends to name an appraiser within two weeks. He estimated the firm that is selected would likely have an estimate together before June 9.

The appraisal will take into account the facility's buildings and the patented land they are built on, but not the hundreds of

surrounding acres of Crown land which fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Heming said.

Government ministries have the first option to take over Bark Lake. If the facility isn't purchased by June 6, the province will offer it to the public sector. After that, if there is still no sale, it would go on the market to the private sector.

Ideas floated for future use of Bark Lake

From page 1

plan or name the partners involved.

"I can't state who the players are at this point because a couple of them have to pass motions in support of the proposal," Dean told The Echo.

He said the Chamber-led group has already discussed its preliminary proposal with Bark Lake management and representatives of the Ontario Realty Corporation, which has been put in charge of selling the Glamorgan property by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation.

Last month the Ministry made the surprise announcement that it would be closing the centre's gates as of August 31 because it can no longer afford its \$1.2-million operating budget.

Should the Chamber's proposal be approved, Dean hopes most of the existing employees at the leadership centre would be able to keep their jobs.

The province's decision to shut down Bark Lake means eight full-time staff, four seasonal workers and between 40 and 50 professional educators who are hired on a contract basis will be out of work.

Before the group makes a concrete offer to the province for the centre, it is trying to iron out exactly what it would be buying, said Dean.

All of the buildings at Bark Lake are located on a 350-acre parcel of Crown land, surrounding a small lake with three miles of waterfront.

The group is also hoping to receive a financial commitment from the province to cover Bark Lake's operating expenses until it is able to bring in its corporate sponsor to take over the costs.

Dean said the group has promised the Ontario Realty Corporation that it would submit a firm proposal by the end of the first week of June.

At that time, he said, he would release further details of the plan. "If we do get (approval to acquire Bark Lake), it's going to be quite an attraction for the country," he said.

Over the past few weeks a number of groups have stepped forward with proposals to take over the leadership centre.

Sir Sandford Fleming College has had its eye on the property as a site to offer some of its educational programs, while a Belleville businessman has proposed turning the centre into a wilderness experience camp for school children.

The Friends of Bark Lake, an alumni association, has been trying to convince the province to merge the leadership training courses it offers at Bark Lake with the mainly athletic leadership programs it runs at another camp it owns on Lake Couchiching.

"The people who are interested in the centre are crawling out of the woodwork," said Dean. "Everybody is after it."

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE!

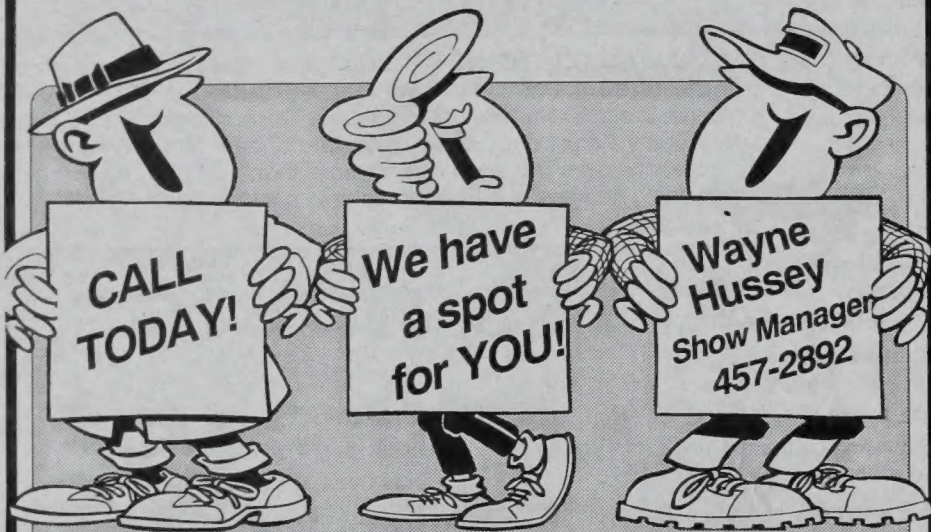
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Theatre gets the hook as board gives go-ahead to HHSS renovation

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Haliburton's school board has dropped the curtain on a proposal to build a theatre at the high school, hoping members of the performing arts community will step into the limelight with funding for its construction.

"It's not surprising," Curtis Eastmure said upon hearing the news.

He and a number of others with an interest in the performing arts want to see a proper venue for their productions built at the school with a large stage and tiered seating.

Before the board approved its \$4.75-million high school renovation plan, Eastmure had said he suspected the theatre would be the first thing to go when it came time for cost cutting.

In the end, the theatre, estimated to cost about \$400,000, was the only component of the plan trustees chopped.

However, there is still a chance that a proper theatre could be built at the high school, says Jim Bradley, the board's superintendent of business administration.

The small gym at HHSS, which has a stage and is currently used for a variety of performances, will remain untouched by renovations and could eventually be converted into a theatre, he said.

"If at another time some kind of public money were to become available the gym could very easily be renovated," said Bradley.

In the meantime, it can be used as an auditorium for school assemblies and by theatre groups for performances.

Eastmure said he will try to organize a public meeting some time this month in an effort to gauge the community's interest in building a theatrical facility at the high school.

If there is sufficient interest, he said it is important that a focus group or com-

mittee be assembled to launch a fund-raising campaign to see that project is carried out.

"I'm sure if we were able to raise a couple hundred thousand dollars and give it to the board and say, 'Put this towards a theatre,' they would be glad to do so," said Eastmure.

The provincial government does have a funding pool available to groups to build community-use facilities at school board properties.

Eastmure and other members of the community's arts groups had hoped to apply for funding through the program in the fall, but didn't get an application together in time.

The group ran a questionnaire in The Echo in February to gauge the community's interest in building a "multi-based, community use facility," but received very poor response, Eastmure said. Only 60 people responded.

"We decided it was getting a bit late to apply for the funds this year and we

really needed larger response than that to go ahead with it," he said.

The group also found out it would need about 50 per cent of the cost of the project in the bank before its grant application could be approved.

Chairman of the board John Munro said he felt the theatre would have been a "tremendous asset" to both the community and the high school, but was disappointed that there was so little support for it.

HHSS arts department head Dave Stephenson said the theatre would not have been an essential facility based on educational programming because the school does not offer theatre arts course, but it would have been useful for extracurricular activities of the Drama Club.

"I'm disappointed for the community groups that would have been able to make use of the theatre," he said.

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County council backs family centre

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

A group of volunteers who want to reduce family violence by preventing it from occurring has been given county council's moral support.

At Wednesday's county council meeting, council voted to support in principle the efforts of the Family Help Centre.

"If society aims to solve the problem of family violence, we can't ignore half the people involved," said group spokesman Frank Woolley.

At present, there are many services for women who are victims of violence, but few for the men who are violent. The group's aim is to reach out to these men to try to prevent them from finding violent solutions to their problems and frustrations.

Services for women "are worthy and necessary but is it solving the problem?" Woolley asked. "We should try to get to

'There's violence all over and we should look at the causes. There are two sides to every story.'

Minden Deputy-Reeve Lewis Stevens

them before they become victims... We should say 'don't let your circumstances become critical. Please come to someone and get help before it becomes a violent situation.'"

The Centre is operating on a shoestring budget so it does not have a hired counsellor. Meetings have been rather informal, held at various volunteers' homes. In the future the Centre would like to have a self-help group or drop-in centre, as well as a phone number for men to call when they need help. Monthly meetings could also be held throughout the county.

Woolley's request for moral support was endorsed, but council was hesitant to let the group use the empty space on the lower floor of the registry office building,

which the county owns.

Anson Hindon and Minden Deputy-reeve Lewis Stevens said he was glad someone was finally reaching out to men. In the media, there's been "a mind-boggling pendulum swing the other way... Dogs are given more rights than men are."

He supports a group that will try to prevent violence, no matter who's the perpetrator. "There's violence all over and we should look at the causes... There are two sides to every story."

Reeve Elva Bates says she doesn't want to see a "them versus us" division between groups that help women and those which help men. "Both groups are trying to tackle the same problem from

different angles."

"I get the impression SIRCH (which runs many of the services for battered women) responds after the fact and you're acting before the fact," said Stanhope Reeve Jock Mavor. He's given financial support to SIRCH and he suggested Woolley seek similar financial support from the community. Mavor offered to be one of the donors.

On the question of whether to let the group use county facilities for free, Warden Ross Rabjohn said that on one hand, can the county be seen to supporting one group, while on the other, the Family Help Centre is being run by volunteers and needs help.

Lutterworth Deputy-reeve Jim McMahon said if office space was given to the Centre, then the county would have to give office space to other groups. "It will go on and escalate."

No formal decision was made on the office issue.

County building proposals pared down

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Three firms will present their bids for renovating the county building later this week.

Seven architecture firms expressed interest in bidding for the project. A short-list of three firms has been approved, and each of those firms will be given an hour to make their pitch on

Thursday.

The project is expected to cost \$700,000 and council has applied for infrastructure funding. If the application is approved, the cost would be divided equally between the federal, provincial and county governments.

There has been a bit of confusion about the application. The county first applied for infrastructure funding last spring to build a new office on Hwy. 35. This \$2.8-

million project was approved but then a new county council decided it couldn't afford a new building and opted for renovating the existing office on Newcastle Street in Minden. A few months ago, it asked if it could redirect the approved funding in three ways: \$700,000 for renovating the county office, \$300,000 for fixing the roof at Hyland Crest, and splitting the rest of the money between the 10 municipalities.

A few weeks ago, The Echo published MP John O'Reilly's concerns that the county had missed the deadline for its second application. It was believed that with the departure of clerk-administrator Terry Noble and the flurry of budget preparations, the application had been mislaid.

However, at Wednesday's county council meeting, Warden Ross Rabjohn said

that at the time, the application for the county's projects had already received provincial approval and was awaiting approval from the federal government. Some municipalities had not yet formalized which projects they were going to apply using the leftover funding. That's where the confusion arose.

The county has yet to receive written confirmation that the infrastructure project has been approved. It is hoped funding will be in place by the time councilors meet with the architects.

Meanwhile, acting administrator Ross Rigney says the federal government is now asking for environment assessments which even go beyond those required by the Ministry of Natural Resources. This is often causing a two to three week delay in the application process, and will likely add to the cost.

Road repairs approved

The following is a list of the road construction projects approved by county council for 1995

- the reconstruction and realignment of a portion of County Road 12 (Livingstone Lake Road), Township of McClintock
- the reconstruction and realignment of the intersection of County Road 7 (Kennis Lake Road) and North Pine Lake Road, Township of Guilford. (This work was expected to be completed last week. It will be resurfaced later this summer)
- the reconstruction and realignment of a portion of County Road 19 (Harburn Road), Township of Dudley

- The rehabilitation of Horseshoe Lake bridge on County Road 20, Township of Minden

- the reconstruction of a portion of County Road 1, Township of Dysart. This portion, between the Haliburton Hospital and the stop sign at Hwy 121 is still owned by the Ministry of Transportation. Final negotiations are still pending with MTO so the work might not be done this year

- resurfacing as follows: County Road 15, Township of Monmouth to Township of Dudley (Hwy 648 to 2.2 km north); and County Road 10, Township of Harcourt (Silver Springs to 2 km north)

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'It all depends on point of view'

Warden sees nothing wrong in fourth staff resignation in as many months

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at Wednesday's county council meeting in Minden.

Warden's remarks

Warden Ross Rabjohn said his opening comments could be titled "It all depends on your point of view."

Recently, the county's general superintendent of roads, Larry Kent, resigned, citing disarray at the county office. He was the fourth senior employee to quit in as many months. (Kent went to work with the former roads engineer, Dave Valentine, in Brantford.)

But Rabjohn said that in his day, changing jobs was always seen as a positive thing. "My colleagues travelled all over the world and we always congratulated them for their initiative and success."

Likewise, there has been criticism about the money the county paid Steve Wace to do an efficiency review of the county's various departments, and whether the report was of any value. Rabjohn says the report "has more than paid its way." He says that the fact Wace could not find many cost-cutting measures is proof that past councils have "done a good job in keeping a lid on spending." Several suggestions were put in place and the county is continuing its endeavours to streamline operations and work more efficiently with municipalities.

One example of this is the way the roads department has replaced Kent. Instead of hiring a new person, the department has given new responsibilities to existing staff members.

County engineer Leslie

COUNTY COUNCIL BRIEFS

Shepherd explained that after meeting with staff, including Kent, it was decided the department would re-define the role of one of the four existing foremen, Drew Winfield. The department also changed the job descriptions of the engineering assistants. Shepherd will also take on some of Kent's former tasks.

"It has the potential to create a team approach and be beneficial," Shepherd said of the changes.

Welfare stats down

If the county's welfare statistics are anything to go by, the county's economy is definitely on the upswing.

In April of 1994, there were 1,373 people (including dependents) who were reliant on social assistance. This April, the number was down to 1,373, a drop of 193 individuals.

As well, the county's social services department had spent 33% of its budget. Since this covers the period of most intense use, this bodes well for the department's financial situation for the rest of the year.

However, the county is worried over the potential threat to the funding structure. The province pays 80% of General Welfare Allowance and the county picks up the other 20%. However, if more than 3.5% of the population receives assistance, the province pays 90% for that portion above 3.5%. In various seasons, Haliburton County qualifies for that extra assistance; last year the province kicked in an additional \$272,000.

In January, the county department was told that the extra funding may not be available after the province's fiscal year, March 31, 1995. Then the department received confirmation it would receive the money, at least until the end of the county's fiscal year, December 31, 1995. "At that point it could be up in the air," says Morris Honeyman, director of the department.

The county does not want to lose that money and council supports the endeavours of area wardens who are lobbying the government to maintain the enhanced funding program.

Support for Minden

Council passed a resolution, put forward by Dysart et al, which supports the efforts of the hospital Community Advisory Committee. It is petitioning the province to have Minden declared as an underserved area. This would allow Minden more ways to attract doctors to the village.

The committee also wants assurances that in-patient services will resume at the Minden Hospital as soon as possible and that 24-hour emergency care will be available once there are seven doctors in the area.

Funding requests

What should the county do if groups make appeals for money? The warden has recently received funding requests from the

Haliburton County Snowmobile Association and the county's Mutual Fire Aid committee. He asked for council direction, questioning whether council needed to draft a policy regarding funding requests.

Cardiff Deputy-reeve Doug Holman says the HCSA gets a free booth at the snowmobile show through the Chamber of Commerce "and that's enough."

Stanhope Deputy-reeve Eleanor Harrison said "I don't think (such requests) should be dealt with at this level. Most municipalities get the same requests."

However, Bicroft Reeve Bill Howe said he would not like support for Mutual Fire Aid to disappear, especially since it is made up of the local fire departments. This year the county made a donation of \$1,000 and he wants it to continue. Glamorgan Reeve Elva Bates agreed, saying "fire protection is a municipal responsibility, different than outside groups (applying for funds)."

Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis warned against having a policy set in stone since some of the applications may be worthwhile.

There was general consensus that council will only discuss funding appeals at budget time.

Chamber

The revised Trails and Tours

strategy will be presented to the Chamber next week, Bates reported.

Meanwhile, a survey at the Sportsmen Show revealed there is increased interest in fishing and family camping.

Davis suggested sharing this information with the Ministry of Natural Resources, since funding for fish stocking is being reduced.

The Chamber is promoting catch and release for bass, since Haliburton County is supposed to be one of the best places in the province for bass fishing.

Warden's banquet

For the past few years, a Warden's Banquet has not been held. The banquet was traditionally held at the end of a warden's term in office and it was free for invited county affiliates. The loss of the annual event as a cost-cutting measure doesn't sit well with Eleanor Harrison, who said "it's a heritage we're letting go by."

She received unanimous support for her resolution to bring back the banquet. However, this time people who want to attend will pay for tickets so costs can be recouped.

Appointment

Dysart's Bill Davis has been appointed as county council's representative on the District Health Council's long-term care committee. He said it's important to make sure the county's seasonal population is taken into consideration when any decisions are being made.



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Stuck ATV throttle suspected as the cause in fatality

by **STEPHEN SHAW**
Staff Reporter

A 24 year-old Scarborough man was killed Sunday when the recreational ATV he was driving on a private road near Eagle Lake smashed into a tree.

Witnesses told police the throttle on the vehicle appeared to be stuck and the machine "took off."

Christopher Montmarquette was rushed by ambulance to Haliburton Hospital where he was pronounced dead. He had been staying at Rip's Sleepy Hollow trailer park on the weekend and was travelling with a group of friends on their ATVs about a kilometre north of County Road 14 when the accident occurred, police said.

Montmarquette's 250 CC Yamaha Tri-Z, three-wheel vehicle was travelling at a speed of about 25 to 30 kms when the throttle apparently jammed and the vehicle suddenly accelerated, witnesses said. The ATV went off the road and struck a tree.

"It was a racing type model not just your standard ATV. But it appears he was travelling at a reasonable speed," said Minden OPP Senior Const. D.B. Trepanier.

The accident occurred at about 2:00 p.m.

An autopsy on the victim was carried out Monday and police say the vehicle was to be inspected for any possible malfunction.

A vision for the future:

County council prioritizes issues and looks at solutions

by **MARTHA PERKINS**
Editor

The problems are still there, but county council now thinks it has a game plan it can follow to solve them.

On Wednesday, council voted to accept the minutes of a "visioning exercise" on April 28 as its new policy for dealing with some of the issues besetting the county.

The "visioning exercise" was an all-day meeting of county councillors, facilitated by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Council took a hard look at the problems facing council and the county as a whole, and came up with suggestions about how those problems can be addressed. The plan also includes steps that will lead the county into a healthier future.

"People felt it was a very worthwhile day," says Warden Ross Rabjohn.

But Brian Benn, an education advisor with the Ministry, said "if you agree to go ahead, don't just talk about it, commit to plans. Use it as a catalyst for change and a way to measure your progress."

At first, the day was an opportunity for council to discuss how it would fill the void at the top of the county's administration. Both its clerk-administrator and human resources manager quit within the past few months. In hiring a replacement, should council hire someone with strong accounting skills and someone else as a strong manager? Should the manager have

experience with human resources, or perhaps be the leader of all departments?

Rather than rush into making a decision, council decided to spend time determining exactly what was needed by both the staff and councillors themselves.

Benn was accompanied at Wednesday's council meeting by municipal advisor Brian Maddocks. They took council through the highlights of the day's discussion, which are as follows:

Objectives:

- prioritize issues facing county government
- enable councillors to share points of view while building a sense of co-operation and team work

Summary of Top Issues:

- county council working together as cohesive unit
- fiscal responsibility
- planning for the future
- future role and size of county council (restructuring, streamlined committee structure, eliminating duplications with municipalities)
- increase staff morale
- attain full staff complement
- more open lines of communication

Values:

- natural, pristine beauty of area
- quality of life (strong, vibrant communities with strong identities)
- high level of volunteerism
- healthy business environment

Current

trends:

- land use conversion (more early retirees moving to area, increasing demands for year-round services)
- out migration of young families because of lack of work
- public demands for fiscal responsibility
- emergence of eco-tourism

Perceived role of county council:

- protect and maintain environment
- hold line on taxes
- market the county to develop economic base
- take active role in healthcare
- provide good roads system
- give direction to staff but stay out of doing day to day operations

Vision statement:

- To maintain and enhance the natural beauty and culture of this area while promoting the economy and quality of life

Strategic Objectives:

- county restructuring/good business practices by seeking out municipal positions on potential amalgamation, setting up task force to examine rationalizing road maintenance and winter servicing, implementing zero-based budget system, and compare costs with private sector to determine who can do a job less expensively
- undertake SWOT analysis prior to commencing strategic

plan in 1996 (SWOT is strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats)

- delay Official Plan to 1997
- set up ad hoc waste management committee to examine various options
- decide which lands can be sold
- identify new joint marketing ventures
- approach other municipalities about the incentives they've offered as a way of reducing costs
- support the Ministry of Transportation's initiative to extend Hwy 404 to provide a more direct route to Haliburton Highlands
- market "air" options of moving people and goods

Recommended next steps:

"To make it practical, there has to be some commitment made," Benn said.

- finalize the staff organization and job descriptions for vacant county positions.
- immediately conduct an "action planning session". Who will be responsible for co-ordinating and evaluating the various stages? What resources must be committed to the project? When will all this take place? How will it complement the upcoming strategic plan?

"You need to make sure everyone who needs to be involved, is involved," Maddocks said.

RE-ELECT

Chris Hodgson

MPP, VICTORIA-HALIBURTON



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Family Coalition joins race

Brad Medd talks tough in provincial election campaign

by MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

It's time to get tough on government, and the candidate for the Family Coalition Party says he's the one to do it.

"Socialism should be smashed completely. Let capitalism reign," Brad Medd said in an interview with The Echo last week. "Less government and less bureaucracy."

One way to start would be eliminating 75% of the jobs at Queen's Park. "Thousands of heads must roll, no golden handshakes," he says.

Asked whether this would affect people who fall under government ministries, such as teachers or health care professionals, Medd said "I'm talking about the bureaucrats, not those out in the field."

Medd believes in letting the market place pave the way, not governments. "It think society has an obligation to stay away and let people do their thing."

For instance, if elected he would want to rescind Bill 40, the NDP's controversial labour law, Bill 163, the new planning act and the new smoking laws which make it illegal to sell cigarettes to youths under the age of 19.

He calls the smoking laws "Orwellian." If entrepre-

neurs want to set up smoke-free restaurants, they should do that, but you shouldn't legislate where people can smoke. As well, he doesn't think laws will prevent young people from smoking. "If they want to smoke at 12, let them smoke."

Medd's campaign is called "Emancipation from the socialist state." In a press release he says "the gradual emasculation of personal rights and freedoms always accompanies a socialist state... Of what value is it to have all this borrowed socialist money in your pocket (as promised by our deceptive politicians) if your hands are chained behind your back as a result of socialist policies? i.e. oppressive taxes, bureaucracy, etc. With socialism comes government intrusion and tyranny in all areas of our lives."

"You'll never get a message like it in all of Ontario," Medd smiled in the interview.

"The rights of minorities and special interest groups have seemed to come ahead of the general populace," he added. "There's a majority out there that hasn't been heard."

Asked what that majority would be saying, Medd said "Government, get your hands off concerning hiring practices, in terms of employment equity. Let a man or woman in business hire who they want to hire and pay what they want to pay."

The province simply cannot afford socialism, he said.

Medd lives in Cameron, where he has an accounting practice and farm. He also is a television evangelist on Cable 10 in Lindsay and is pastor of the Hartley Community Church, a non-denominational church affili-



Brad Medd

ated with the Independent Assemblies of God.

"Religion can be and should be a positive influence on decision makers," he says. "I think that it's up to those who are religious to try to be a positive influence in the lives of politicians so that government could be good government."

He comes from a Judeo-Christian perspective but says it's open to other people. If elected to help run a province which includes people of many faiths, Medd says "we can accept their faith for what it is but Ontario is founded on Judeo-Christian principles."

Asked to define the relationship between church and state, he says "influence only from the point of view that it is for good (government)."

Another thing he'd like to do away with is public funding of abortions. "I'm dead set against it. Let the living live, because in the mother's womb, they're living."

The money saved on abortions, which he says would be about \$30- to \$40-million a year, would be re-directed to more "worthwhile" services such as hospital beds and cancer treatment centres.

On local issues, he's somewhat less specific. Asked about the medical situation in Minden, Medd said "I think there's a doctor shortage or something like that." But once again, he says it's about letting the market place decide, not governments.

The MPP's role in this would only be to encourage doctors to move to the area. "No promises dollar-wise, just the quality of life (a doctor could enjoy in the area.)"

Asked "what about Bark Lake", Medd said "what about Bark Lake?"

"If it's not making money, definitely close it," he said. (The province has announced it will close the Bark Lake Leadership Centre in Irondale on August 31.) Government-run agencies should have a minimum of 15% return on investment. If Bark Lake meets that criteria, the government should keep it; if it doesn't, the government should sell it."

Commenting on this get-tough approach, Medd said "it's time to be tough. Tell it like it is, that's leadership, somebody who doesn't go to the University of Four Winds" and put their finger up to see which way the wind is blowing.

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Editorial

A step forward

It would be easy to smirk disdainfully at anything called a "visioning exercise." Talk about buzz words! After interfacing with each other, everybody left feeling empowered, right? Wrong. It is hoped that the day in April which county councillors spent debating the county's future will result in more than good feelings.

What they've done is take a huge problem and break it down into smaller, more manageable challenges. Faced with the daunting task of trying to govern a county that is still in economic doldrums while having to cope with a myriad of new laws and responsibilities, county council was once again threatening to break into fractious factions, turning their frustrations against one another instead of against the problems that were making them so frustrated. The meeting in April at least got them talking to each other as partners instead of worried politicians trying to protect their own turf. They concentrated their energies on county issues and by the end of the day, they had come up with a game plan. At Wednesday's county council meeting, they adopted this plan as the policy they will follow in the next year.

Times they are a-changing for municipal politicians. It used to be their most contentious task was solving disputes over fences. Finding a new dump meant buying a new field. Now they are expected to be true county leaders. They have to negotiate with higher levels of government, find cheaper ways of doing things, and chart a course into the future. When those challenges appeared too big, they tended to concentrate on the small, and that's where the personality differences and rivalries came into play.

One of the advisors with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, which facilitated the April meeting, used this anecdote: In the old days, council would spend a month arguing about which \$100,000 snowplow to buy. Snowplows were something they could understand; buying a truck was something they had all done. They'd know how to get the best snowplow at the best price. Sit them down with an architect who was proposing a \$2-million addition to the roads shed, and they'd simply nod their heads. Architecture was something they couldn't understand, it was too big. They couldn't come up with ideas of their own to challenge the ideas of the architect. And so the \$2-million expenditure was passed, barely without comment.

Today, politicians have to know about the big issues, too. They have to go into areas they're not familiar and comfortable with. They have to know a lot more.

Although county council is to be congratulated for holding the meeting, it really had no choice. People were wondering aloud if there was any role or raison d'être for a county government. Three senior administrators left; another had been fired by the previous council. But instead of blindly fumbling through applications, hoping that this time they'd choose the right shell in the shell game, council decided to think things through. Luckily, it also decided not to do it alone, and councillors accepted the assistance and guidance of the Ministry.

It's a funny thing. In some cases, bringing in outside help has proved disastrous because the "outsider" hasn't understood the nuances and aspirations of the Highlands. In this case, council really needed an outside voice. Ministry staff are objective, they have no old scores to settle, no personal biases to cloud their vision. It's also helped that council has had Ross Rigney as the temporary administrator. Mr. Rigney recently retired to Canning Lake after a highly successful career with Sears Canada. By the end of his career, he was a vice-president of the company (not to be confused with an individual store.) He has experience, he has know-how and he has life at Canning Lake to look forward to once a permanent administrator is found. He can do the job without having to worry about his future. The county is lucky to have him.

Of course, the challenge is now to make sure that good intentions become good actions. Will it happen? Let's just say the county can't afford to have it not happen.

M.P.



Reflection near Gooderham

by Len Pizze

Letters to the Editor

Trustees ignored parents

To the Editor:

It has been very difficult to be patient and diplomatic when dealing with the management committee of the Board of Education. I speak of the May 9th meeting to discuss the closure of Victoria Street School.

I am one of many parents and concerned citizens who have been in support of keeping VSS open, (if it would be economically feasible). We came before the board in good faith, with honesty and respect, expecting an equal, fair and mature exchange of information. We did our part, what happened to them? Not only did trustees neglect our input (petitions), but they failed to bring forth infor-

mation which would have played an important part of this debate.

Trustees seem to forget they were elected to serve the community, the community being us, the taxpayers of Haliburton County. When they ask for public input, they are accountable and responsible to us as taxpayers to discuss or analyze any information they receive. Not shuffle it under the door to be totally disregarded. They ignored the opinions of about 530 people, who thought an independent facility assessment should be conducted. That's a large percentage of county residents. Are they saying what we think doesn't matter? Or is it they just don't care what we

think? Or is it perhaps as Len Creelman stated, (May 16), "the process of community participation and consultation is a farce which must be played through to create the illusion of community involvement in a school closure."

And why is it that the memo on the board's reasons for the school's closure was brought to our attention after the meeting and not before? This should have been brought forward not only to allow for a better understanding of both sides, but to make this an equal and fair process.

Trustees should all be very ashamed!

Lory Turrin,
Haliburton

Parents' request was reasonable

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the Board of Education management committee meeting held May 9, 1995.

The impact of the impending closure of Victoria Street School was addressed by 600 signed petitioners expressing a reluctance to the closure of this facility at this time. Their support for Len Creelman's recommendation to put aside a decision and to employ the services of an independent expert seemed to be a reasonable request, considering the encouraging and new information provided by an engineer, and the abundance of community support.

This meeting would have provided the board with a wonderful opportunity to reiterate their reasons for their recommendation, and to respond to Mr.

Creelman's recommendation.

If VSS closure has been an issue since 1988, the question has to be asked. "Why has this issue not been resolved?" It is suspected that in part the answers are with the 600 petitioners (accumulated in 1 1/2 weeks), and perhaps a greater effort should be put forth to address their concerns, and to offer a clear, concise alternative proposal.

If the school is not going to be spared for reasons of unsafety, then who is this facility safe for? We feel that with the closure of VSS there will be a loss of the steeped in traditions that this facility has carried with it for 70 years. The school has encouraged parent/volunteers involvement that is effective

because of VSS's accessibility to the community.

It is surprising to find funding that has been anticipated for several years, and yet there's been no decisions to build a separate structure or to build an addition to J. D. Hodgson. This is of significant importance to the petitioners. When and if VSS is deemed as being prohibitive to save because of cost, safety, and the time to construct, then most would be in favour of a new school, separate and unattached from J.D. Hodgson with separate playground facilities. This would address the majority of parent concern expressed at the later meeting. With a separate facility being provided the loving, caring, small school

Continued on page 11

The Echo welcomes Letters to the Editor. They must be signed, and may be edited for length. Mail to Box 360, Haliburton, K0M 1S0

Saying a sad goodbye to that old pink roof



ANNECDOTES

Anne Creelman

I have always been prone to having my emotions run high. I cry at Bell commercials. I get choked up when I see a war veteran at a VE-Day Celebration. And I have never been one to say good-bye very well. Well the past week was a biggie as far as saying "so long" when I packed up, closed up, and left for the last time, the house in which I grew up in Ottawa.

Ottawa had been my home since 1967, when after the sudden death of my father, my mother chose to move my sisters and me back to the place where she grew up and much of her family still lived. We would spend weekends driving back and forth on the 401 between Ottawa and Toronto as we searched for the house that fit the budget and could become a new home to we four (including Mom) waif-like girls. My aunt and uncle called and said they found just the place so we zoomed down and found they were indeed right. It was a modest little bungalow with three bedrooms, an unfinished basement and a lovely yard. It was fairly close to the schools my sisters and I would attend and a

short drive to where my mother would be working as a high school secretary. We jumped on it and by January we were comfortably ensconced in our new little house with the pink roof.

Yes it had a pink roof! But mother always maintained it was part of its charm. It did have charm and it didn't take long for us to start calling it home. We soon discovered that the neighbour who we thought resembled Mr. Wilson of Dennis the Menace was actually a sweetheart who just enjoyed strolling around the yard in his undershirt. We also found out just how close the local confectionary was by bike and made it a part of our daily routine. Remember Thrills gum? We soon started bringing home many of the new friends we had made and they were always made to feel welcome by Mom. And my mother was the key to the house's charm.

My mother loved to have company and parties and lots of fun. The house was host to countless number of birthday parties, graduation gatherings and generally anyone who wanted to drop for a chat and have a cuppa. Mom had a way about her that made people just gravitate to her and that was usually in the comfort of her own home. And so it was logical that once she was gone, it was also time for the house to be sold.

Continued on page 12

More Letters to the Editor

Socialists have their cake, and eat mine too: reader

To the Editor:

In response to H. Michael Collins, when were the good years in Canada? Did you enjoy having your cake and eating mine, too? We are now paying the price through inflation, taxation and regulation for those "golden" years of redistribution of wealth.

Any tax on any business only costs us more to administer and collect. The cost of a new extortion on business is passed on to the customer. If more legislation stops business from charging what they need, that business will simply move to a freer place or close up, ending the

Parents urged to attend next board meeting

From page 10

environment could be maintained.

We encourage the "physical presence" of those individuals who supported the petition and others who would like to have a voice in this decision, to be present at the next meeting to be held at HHSS, May 23, 1995, at 7:30 p.m.

Debbie Lambe,
Jeannine Espie
and concerned parents

jobs and taxes it was paying. When big business warns our government to stop bleeding it to death or it will close, I am glad when they listen.

I don't remember any "attacks" against a woman's shelter. But I do remember attacks on the social system that automatically treats a man as guilty if a charge has been made. I know two men who have been accused of assault. One of the charges was later dropped and the other had to spend over \$60,000. in legal fees to prove to the court that times and locations made the crime impossible. Both of these men are clearly innocent but have suffered beyond belief because of a stupid emotional outburst by someone wanting attention.

I believe a woman's house is a needed place. As a human I would contribute to it if it was not being financed through taxes and government. I have no control over irrational actions of my neighbours, male or female, nor would I want to control anyone. If only the rest of the country could realize that the brain is above the neck and equality can not make a race, creed, colour, religion or sex special.

Jim Battarbee,
Mountain Lake

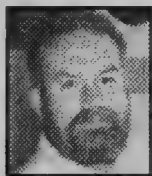


Pic of the Past

Gren Schrader of Oakville sent us an fascinating package of information, calling cards and memorabilia from Snowdon, where his family was among the first settlers. Included was this photo of a log jam on the Burnt River at the Lower Dutch Line, sometime in the early part of this century. He says the man sitting down on a log

at the front left corner of the picture, Raymond John Henry Geeza (1885-1978), was known to all the older residents of Snowdon. Our thanks to Mr. Schrader, who owns property close to where this log jam occurred, for sharing the photo.

A memorable Dutch journey



PERSPECTIVES

Lon Duncombe

Canada has an international presence today far out of proportion to its size. This is partly due to our global role in peacekeeping, and upon occasion, peace-making. The recent celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II remind us that we have sometimes paid a heavy price. In my case, watching Canadian vets being welcomed with gratitude back to the land they fought and died in, seeing Dutch school-children placing flowers on Canadian graves, have stirred up fond, if half forgotten, memories of my own trip through Holland 30 years ago.

During the Easter break I took off, along with a school chum, on a long-planned four week tour of Europe. As our total budget was \$100 each, we hitchhiked wherever possible, mooched meals at every opportunity, and as for sleeping arrangements, I recall trying to bed down beneath the shrubs in the garden behind Notre Dame cathedral in Paris. A steady,

bone chilling drizzle and the quarter hourly bonging of the huge church clock forced us into an all-night dive where we slept sitting in shifts, just like in Apache country ("Things shooore are quiet, Steve". "Yeah, tooooo quiet".) We each had to order a cup of coffee every half hour to avoid being kicked out.

As we journeyed painfully north through France I began to question the wisdom of trying to see Europe on four dollars a day. Our much anticipated trip was taking on the characteristics of boot camp - daily forced marches on little food and inadequate sleep. Then, out of desperation, Steve drew a Canadian flag on a piece of cardboard and flashed it at the passing cars. We were immediately picked up by a Belgian wine merchant on his way home to Brussels and from there on in our circumstances improved dramatically. No longer scruffy nobodies, we found ourselves being treated by the Belgians and Dutch as family friends.

The schedule usually went as follows - after bed and breakfast with our 'family', provided free of charge of course, we would be dropped off at the nearest highway, catch a ride a few minutes later, enjoy a dinner paid for by the driver, be

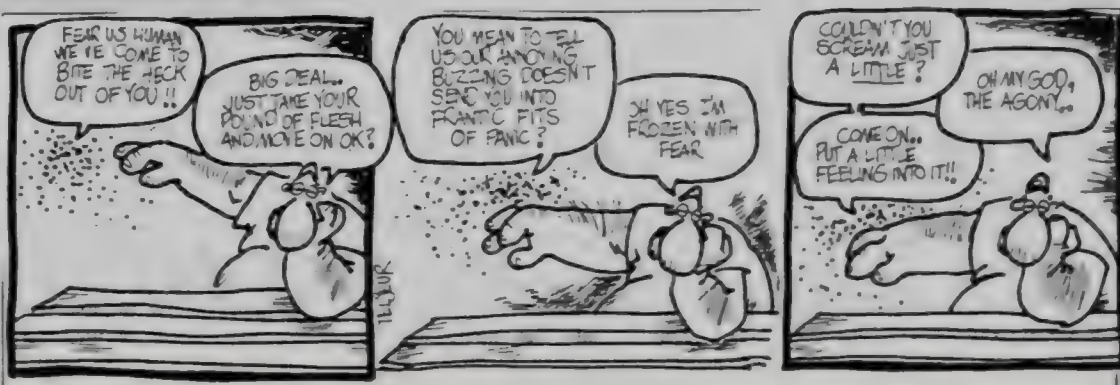
brought home to meet our new family, given an invitation to stay over, which we turned down unless the hour was late, and then we would be driven to a strategic hitchhiking location to repeat the whole process.

I was always vaguely aware of a second cousin of mine who had died in the liberation of Holland, but I had no idea of the strength of Dutch affection for Canadians, or the real sacrifices Canadian soldiers had made in Europe, until that trip. On the outskirts of Brussels we were given a tour of a concentration camp, restored with the admonition to "Forgive, but never forget!" The disturbing memories of that visit remain with me today. A Dutch grandmother tried to sing O Canada in broken English as we sat in a farmhouse kitchen and wolfed down slices of homemade bread and jam.. She had relatives in Montreal and kept getting stuck on all the We stand on guard for thees. In Amsterdam or Rotterdam, a request for directions would often lead to a home visit, or an offer of a guided tour of the sights. We ended the Dutch portion of our trip in relative luxury (hot running water!) with friends of Steve's parents who lived in the town of Gouda, of cheese fame.

Continued on page 12

Boonieville

by Charlie Telford



More Letters to the Editor

Values, discipline must be taught at home

To the Editor:

Like most of us I have been watching the news coverage of the Oklahoma bombing and like many of you I thought it can't happen to us. Then I wondered why this particular place? It really isn't significant politically. I was at once angered by what we all figured to be the work of middle east militant groups. I wanted to be able to label this with a familiar tag because it isn't a pleasant thing to bring this type of violence down to a personal level and not the collective gripe of some terrorist group. The organized violence is the expected and the individual is much more sinister.

I believe that the main reasons we are still so shocked was because the people who were murdered there had no involvement with the killers or any connection with their motives.

Wake up!

Here is the most basic and nasty of crimes. Individual hatred of their fellow man for the lack of personal development in the basic fabric of our lives. We need many kinds of interests, both personal and family, both community and socially oriented. These strands of the tapestry are woven in our formative childhood years when we learn from parents, grandparents, siblings, teachers both in church and school, good literature and wholesome entertainment. We have greatly devalued the worth of a human being with the breakdown of discipline and respect in the home and school. We have allowed insidious values or lack of them to influence our children, our most precious investment and resource for the future.

Do we think the people in funny colored suits who hit and

kick their way to their goals are what we really want our kids to learn from? People say small children know that it's just entertainment and not real. Wrong! Children learn from what they see. They don't relate to "Do as I say, not do as I do." We must set the example in the home. Our children learn to get along in the community by learning the coping skills and the tools to deal with problems, in the home. We can't expect the schools or clubs to do this for us. Families make up a community not just individuals. If kids don't get a sense of self and belonging at home they will go elsewhere. Usually elsewhere winds up to be the working place.

If we want to look at time like a pendulum, we can take hold and keep that arm from stroking away with every sweep the weave of our and our children's future. We want to build a better world. We don't want to simply have been. Be part of the solutions, do not add negative weight to that pendulum. Allow it to swing even and true.

Della Maria
Outram,
Tory Hill

Dutch remember the struggle and sacrifice

From page 11

Once across the border into West Germany, however, we quickly found ourselves reduced to eating in greasy spoons and sleeping in railway stations and hostels. The magic spell had worn off and for the rest of the two princes were, once again, just a couple of toads.

As wars go, World War II is for most Canadians a relatively straightforward study in good and evil. Even the most revisionist of historians would find

it difficult to deny the evil of Nazi aggression, or the necessity of its defeat. We should always remember with pride the active role our country played in the liberation of Europe. The Dutch have demonstrated that the passage of years will not extinguish our mutual affection borne out of the common struggle and sacrifice of 50 years ago. In a very real sense Canada's global peacekeeping role today is a continuation of that fight for peace and freedom.

Little house was a home filled with memories of love and laughter

From page 11

As I walked through the house on that last day, it was like I had a movie camera in my head. I remembered the fun and good times that those walls had seen. Like riding my two wheel bike in the living room because my over-protective mother didn't want me on the street. Or the grad party when I forgot to tell Mom I had invited the entire graduation class and their dates. Or when a fellow I know walked through the front door and made me forget I was engaged to someone else. It was

in this house I fought and made up with my sisters, realized that my mother really did know best, over the years, grew up. It was a nice house but it now no longer belongs to me, although the memories and love shared there will always be mine.

Without knowing it, my sisters and I each sent the new owner cards congratulating her on her new house. I guess we all wanted her to know what a special place it is and hope that it becomes as much of a home for her as it did for us. Good-bye little house with the pink roof. You served us well.

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Authorized by D. Fisher CFO for Sharon McCrae

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West Guilford cheers native son

Hometown Hawk helps dump Leafs in first round of Stanley Cup playoffs

by **STEPHEN SHAW**
Staff Reporter

The quiet, subdued village of West Guilford revelled in noisy celebration Friday night.

While most local hockey fans were sitting in sports bars and living rooms with their heads hung solemnly in dejection following the game seven playoff elimination of the Toronto Maple Leafs at the hands of the Chicago Black Hawks, West Guilford residents were basking in the success of one their own.

At the home of George and Marjorie Nicholls — parents of Black Hawk centre Bernie Nicholl — cheers of victory and tears of joy flowed through the household.

"There was a lot of crying and screaming and everyone was calling from all over the place. It was just so exciting," Bernie's mom Marjorie said Sunday of the rush of victory.

The Black Hawks, who were knocked out in the first round of last year's Stanley Cup playoffs by the Maple Leafs, returned the favour this year delivering the fatal blow with a 5-2 win Friday night in the windy city.

And while he didn't score a goal in the series, Nicholls stood out as the Hawks' top player — both defensively and offensively. With their top scorer, Jeremy Roenick sidelined by an injury since the latter part of the regular season, the Hawks were compensated by Nicholl's strong, two-way contribution.

'Haliburton Bernie' — as he is referred to by CBC

commentators — killed penalties, dove in front of slapshots, won crucial face-offs and set up eight goals during the seven game series. Overall Nicholls played a gritty and gutsy series displaying a veteran's intelligence and intense desire to win.

The final game ended a two-week roller coaster ride for the two clubs, their fans and the Nicholls family. After two Toronto wins in Chicago to start the series, the Hawks bounced back to win the next three games in a

**'There was a lot of crying
and screaming, and everyone was
calling from all over the place.'**

row. The Leafs managed to steal game six in overtime forcing the winner-take-all, game seven Friday.

"I couldn't watch it because it was too exciting. It was just a terrible time. It was really hard on the nerves," said Mrs Nicholls of the series' tie-breaker. "When they lost the first two games I was worried. I was just hoping and praying that they'd win but I didn't think they would. That's why it's really such a great victory; you really don't think they can do it and then they do."

The win didn't come easy though — for Bernie or his family. While Nicholls was flying on the ice leading the Hawks to victory, Marjorie Nicholls was flying around

the house trying to stay calm. "I was all over the place from room to room. I was running up and down the stairs and drinking water trying to keep calm... (Bernie's father) George doesn't say much but inside he was in knots... he was smoking more than usual," she laughs.

And even though Bernie called after each game and vowed the club would win, Mrs. Nicholls admits to having doubts after the first two losses. "I didn't feel too good about it but Bernie was confident they could win in the games back in Toronto. He called after each game and he was so excited," she said.

On game nights, Marjorie, George, son Erin and daughter Cheryl, who both live in West Guilford as well, would all be glued to the television set. Following the series decider, the phone rang off the hook. Bernie's brother David, who lives in Orillia, called from Montreal and sister Alberta called from her home in Scarborough.

Rooting for the Chicago Black Hawks in what is mainly Maple Leaf land — except, of course, for West Guilford — was a touchy situation for the Nicholls.

"When you're around Toronto fans all the time it's tough. There are so many Toronto fans and they're all saying that they were going to win so you just have to listen to it, bite your tongue and keep quiet."

While the excitement of playoff hockey is gone for fans of the Maple Leafs, the Nichols and the rest of West Guilford will continue to be glued to the sets as the Hawks are now taking on the Vancouver Canucks in the quarter finals

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BIG 'D': A member of the boys basketball team from Archie Stouffer Elementary School tries to elude a blocker from J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School blocker. JDHES went on to win 59-43.

Westside Jug City kicks off soccer season with loss

by **Ryan Goodall**
Special to the Echo

Last Sunday, the Westside Jug City Soccer club played its season opener against the Collingwood Knights in Bracebridge. As soon as the game started the pressure was on. The pace was fast the teams played kick and run tactics.

Steve Dunec scored the first goal for Haliburton from a cross from Ivor Thompson. After this, the Haliburton defense gave Collingwood no chances for any good shots and the score after first half was still 1 - 0 for Haliburton.

In the second half Haliburton had good chances to score but could not finish up. Then Collingwood struck with an equalizer. The game ended up in a 1 - 1 tie.

Even though it was not a win for Haliburton the team played excellently. Great defending by Al Joplin, Nico Haedicke, Chris Holiday-Rhodes and Ryan Goodall. The pressure was put on the experienced strikers of Ivor Thompson, Steve Dunec, Hans Walter, Percy and Lutz Haedicke while the pace was controlled by Peter Bertleson, Jan Haedicke and Chris Carl. Excellent goal-tending by Roberto Manuel.

CALL FOR ENTRY

Arts and Crafts Show Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre

As part of the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre's 50th anniversary celebrations, a select show of environmentally inspired arts and crafts is being sponsored by the Haliburton Highlands Guild of Fine Arts.

Theme: Natural Inspirations

Date: August 19 to 24, 1995

Place: Leslie M. Frost
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Dorset, Ontario

Applications may be obtained at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (Minden, Ontario) or at the Rail's End Gallery (Haliburton, Ontario) or call the Rail's End Gallery at (705) 457-2330.

Deadline for applications is Saturday, June 24, 1995 at 5:00 p.m. (local time). Space may be limited for entries received after this date/time. **Please note, this is not a sale.**

Criteria: Work must be of original design and quality of execution, inspired by the natural environment of Haliburton County. Absolutely no kits or designs based on artwork, photos, etc. created by another person other than the participant will be permitted. Participants must be residents (seasonal or permanent) of Haliburton County.



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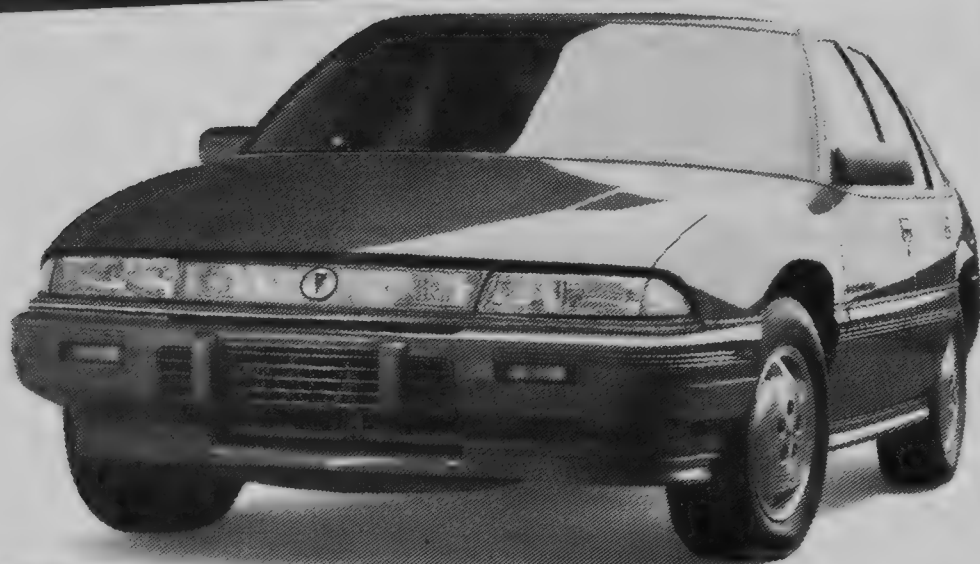
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O'Reilly relays riding's protest of gun control to justice committee

by STEPHEN SHAW
Staff Reporter

In a brief, five-minute appearance in front of the House of Commons gun committee, Victoria-Haliburton MP John O'Reilly relayed the message he's been hearing from his constituents the past seven months.

O'Reilly made a short, to the point presentation before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on Thursday. The committee is reviewing the legislation and listening to the views and suggestions of interested parties both for and against Bill C-68.

Justice Minister Allan Rock unveiled the proposed gun control package late last year. The legislation would outlaw handguns and para-military weapons, increase the maximum sentence for gun-wielding criminals and create a mandatory national registration system for all gun owners — the element which has come under most fire from gun proponents. The legislation also gives police sweeping search and seizure powers when there is suspicion of an unregistered firearm.

When the committee's study is complete, it will put forth recommendations for revisions to the Bill — which will be debated before final reading in the

House of Commons.

O'Reilly told the committee he has received more than 5,000 letters, postcards and faxes to his office since the package was proposed and that a recent survey of the riding show 70 per cent of constituents oppose it.

"No other issue has caused so much protest in Victoria-Haliburton — including the hated GST," O'Reilly said. The proposed package is "the topic of heated conversation in every area of my riding."

'No other issue has caused so much protest in Victoria-Haliburton — including the hated GST. It is the topic of heated conversation in every area of my riding.'

To underscore people's objections to the package, he pointed to the hundreds of residents who showed up at a gun rally held "on the coldest Sunday of this past winter."

Law-abiding gun owners "object to becoming criminals because of their way of life" and shouldn't be targetted as criminals for failing to register their firearms, he argued.

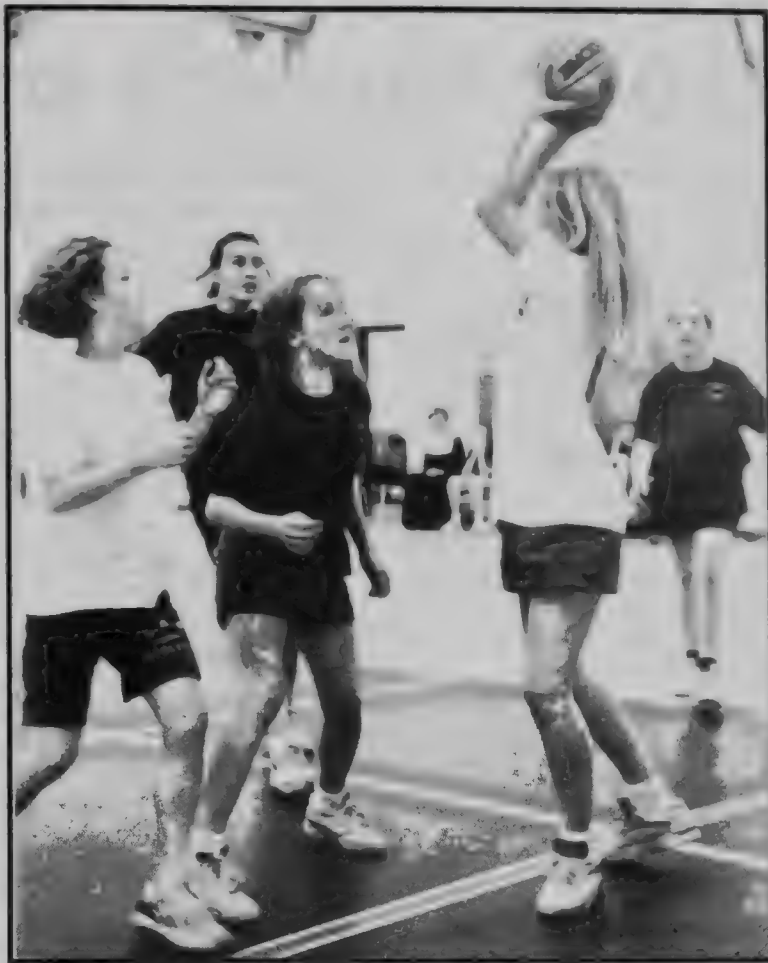
"A proposal of voluntary registration would be more palatable to the people of Victoria-

Haliburton," O'Reilly said, suggesting a voluntary system through provincial associations such as the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Under the present proposal, failing to register a firearm could result in a prison sentence. Rock has said he's willing to soften the penalty for failure to register and possibly his position on other aspects of the legislation — but he has said he's not budging on the national registration system.

Under the proposed laws, "the staff at our local museums now have to obtain FACs (firearms acquisition certificates) to remain employees of a museum because of a display of muskets," said O'Reilly.

He told the committee that it isn't only Reform party supporters who oppose the proposal in the riding. The Lindsay Chief of Police, the Victoria Community Police Association, members of gun and sports clubs are all against the legislation as are 90 per cent of municipal governments in the riding (which have passed resolutions saying such).



THE PASS: A player on Archie Stouffer Elementary School's girls' basketball team passes off to a teammate during a home game last week against J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School.

Tomlinson sets COSSA record

A local athlete set a new record at a recent COSSA competition in Napanee.

Anna Tomlinson set a record of 10.44 metres in the Senior Girls Triple Jump event.

She is one of several athletes

from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School who did well at the May 18 competition. Everyone listed below has qualified to go to the regional competition at Queen's University on Friday, May 26.

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Authorized by CFO for the Chris Hodgson Campaign

Boat launch policy officially passed

by STEPHEN SHAW
Staff Reporter

Taking responsibility

A municipal policy to assume responsibility for maintenance of lake access points was unanimously passed by council after some minor revisions.

The policy is the first step towards repairing boat launch points at area lakes, which have been abandoned by the Ministry of Natural Resources in recent years as part of cost-cutting measures.

Before the repairs can be started, an agreement with the MNR must first be established absolving it of liability.

GLAMORGAN COUNCIL BRIEFS

About \$2,000 in minor maintenance is needed at various points, which also includes work to bring them up to operating standards.

The issue was originally raised by cottagers at a recent meeting with council members. Some lakeshore residents also asked to have public boat launch signs removed. Council members, however, are reluctant to do so.

"On one hand we're saying we are keeping the access points open for public use and on the other we'd be taking the signs down and I'm not too sure if I'm in agreement with that," said Reeve Elva Bates.

Deputy-reeve Bill Challis noted the boat launch sign on Horseshoe Lake "disappears again and again everytime we put it back up. Obviously it's cottagers taking them down."

"If we're going to maintain access then we are saying that they are for the public's use," Challis remarked.

Building jump

Spring construction in the municipality has bloomed and the number of building permits issued so far this year is triple what it was at this point last year.

In April, seven permits were issued for a total value of \$266,500, up from one permit last April. In total 12 permits have been issued in 1995 (valued at \$394,000) up from four at this time last year.

"I'm not too sure if this a trend or just everyone getting an early start this year," said Dan Sayers, Chief By-law Officer.

Community link

A Buckhorn snowmobiling club wants to forge a trail linking their community to Gooderham.

In order to do so, they need Glamorgan's roads department to help pave the way.

Les Gray, a representative of the Buckhorn District Snowmobile Club

in Peterborough County, says an existing trail (Trapper's Trail) system already links the two communities, but some minor upgrading along the Contau Lake road allowance is needed to bring it up to standard.

The club — which Gray said has snowballed in membership from 273 to 796 in the last three years — spent \$23,000 last year on the trail and just needs some finishing touches.

Council will consider the work after a cost is estimated for the work by Roads Superintendent Vince Billings.

Correction

In the last Glamorgan council briefs it was incorrectly reported that Councillor and Recreation Chairman Tom Vos voted against a motion to designate surplus committee funds into reserve for the establishment of a youth drop-in centre. Vos, in fact, abstained from voting.

Planner calls for lake capacity study

by STEPHEN SHAW
Staff Reporter

Glamorgan won't consider approving any new development on its most populated lake until a capacity study has been conducted.

Council won't grant consent for two lot creation applications on Salerno Lake, which would create at least three new lots. The applications will not be considered before a lake assessment study has been carried out.

The applicants, Birch Narrow Wood Products and property owner Lois Baker, must cover the cost for the capacity study, which could be between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

Glamorgan planning consultant McNair and Marshall recommended to council that the study be conducted before considering approval of the applications.

Based on an informal 1992 study, the lake is heavily overpopulated. The number of developed lots on the lake has exceeded far beyond the projected capacity.

And as development has gradually increased, the lake's water quality has rapidly declined, say residents.

A delegation of lake association members were present at Thursday's council meeting to voice their concerns.

"We've been concerned for a number of years about development on the lake. Our main concern is the increase in the growth of algae and water plantation in the lake," said Leo McCarthy.

"The algae is taking oxygen from the water and not leaving enough to support the fish population. There has been a noticeable decrease of life, particularly fish life in the lake," said McCarthy.

Because of the lake's saucer shape, there is little water turnover. "It doesn't have the flushing capability to cleanse itself," said McCarthy.

Salerno Lake is the third largest body of water in the municipality, yet has the highest number of developed lots. In 1992, a study estimated the lake's capacity was 89 lots. Today there are close to 300 lots. Of those, 207 are directly on the shoreline and another 60 are approved but not yet developed — "and that's scary," said one resident.

Salerno Lake's surface area is 357 acres. In comparison, the largest lake in the township, Koshlong, is 990 acres. Koshlong had only 237 lots developed as of 1992.

"Twenty-five years ago you could drink the water right out of the lake but I wouldn't do that today," said one resident.

Council accepted the planning consultant's recommendation and has requested the Haliburton County Land Division Committee also request the capacity study before considering the applications.

While the applications were filed before Bill 163 — the new Planning Act — came into effect, the municipality can freeze development on the lake by passing an Interim Control By-law for one year until a study has been completed.

Reeve Elva Bates noted that one of the applicants, Birch Narrows Wood Products, recently created eight lots on Contau Lake.

"These people come in and want one lot and then all of a sudden they want two and three and so on. I've seen it happen and that is how we got to where we are," said McCarthy.

Bates was confident the request would be upheld if challenged by the applicants at the Ontario Municipal Board.

"It is pretty obvious that the lake is far beyond its capacity. And the lake has to be the primary concern," said Councillor Chuck Viner, who questioned the need for the formal capacity study.

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Seniors' home built in '60s doesn't meet needs of residents in the '90s

By STEPHEN SHAW
Staff Reporter

When it was built in 1965, the purpose of the Hyland Crest seniors home was to provide just that — a home where elderly people could live with the same dignity they enjoyed throughout their lifetime.

It was constructed to provide a comfortable living quarters where new retirees, most about 65 years of age, could spend the latter years of their lives in relaxation. And at the time, it served its designed function more than adequately.

Until now.

During the past 20 years, support services have given seniors the opportunity to stay self-sufficient and remain in their homes longer. At the same time the miracles of modern medicine have allowed people to stay healthier longer.

Now, instead of being 65, incoming residents are closer to 80 or 85 years of age and have far different, in most cases greater, needs than those for which the seniors home was built to meet.

And, the facility's inability to meet those requirements has frustrations growing for the 62 residents who call Hyland Crest home. The challenge of meeting their needs is becoming an almost impossible one for the 70 (mostly part-time) staff members.

"Over the years we've done what we could to meet the changing needs of residents. All the departments have pulled together to make the best possible use of what we've got," says Hyland Crest Director of Nursing Melinda O'Mara.

But what they have to work with isn't much.

Washroom and bathing facilities are too few and improperly equipped. In some wings, 11 residents share two standard communal-style bathrooms (which have no specialized features required for wheelchair-bound residents).

The shortage leads to at times lengthy waits — many of the residents have bowel illnesses — and what nurses and residents say are unfair living conditions.

For wheelchair access, some bathrooms have doors removed, which strips residents of their privacy, says O'Mara.

The handful of bathtubs originally built are not in use as they are unsuitable to meet the needs of frail residents. (There are no hand grips and there isn't enough room to use electronic lifts).

Two recently purchased specialized 'Dolphin' tubs are used to bath 62 residents once a week.

While incoming residents 30 years ago were ambulatory, the majority of today's occupants are not. Today's new residents are older and therefore have much more specialized care needs.

"The home was built for

people who were up and about. The care requirements have changed — but the building hasn't," O'Mara says bluntly.

While there are six private and 10 semi-private rooms, the majority of the 62 residents share rooms — and their lives — with three roommates in 10 four-bed rooms.

The four-bed rooms were originally intended to lessen the loneliness for younger, more active residents. But today, with many seniors staying in their homes longer, and often alone, adjusting to the sudden shock of three new roommates in cramped quarters isn't an easy task.

"New residents only want semi-private and private rooms. The biggest complaint is having to share their lives with three other people after living the last part of

'You can try to make it as much like a home as possible but you can't'

their life alone. Some are private people and have a very difficult time adjusting," O'Mara says.

"You can try to make it as much like a home as possible, but you can't."

The province has approved a \$10.6-million capital project which would include upgrading Hyland Crest. The size of the building will increase significantly but the number of residents won't. Instead, the expansion would bring the home up to current standards, with such things as two residents to a room and adjoining bathrooms.

Other projects in the plan include building an emergency facility at the Hyland Crest site, consolidating hospital acute care beds in Haliburton, and building 30 long-term care beds at Haliburton Hospital. It's estimated that the Hyland Crest project will account for half the funds.

For 82 year-old resident Nora Groves, the change will be welcome. Because she suffers from angina, the breeze of fresh air from an open window allows her to breathe in comfort "but some of the ladies don't want the window open, they want it shut. At night it is especially hard for me to breath without it open," says Mrs. Groves explaining the types of difficulties the roommates face.

Mrs. Groves, after four years at Hyland Crest, still lives partially out of her suit-

case. Another problem with the rooms are lack of space. There is little closet room for clothes, and even less for personal artifacts.

Nine-year resident Winnifred Barnum, who shared a room with three others when she first arrived, says the complications make for a difficult living environment. "One person wanted things one way and another wanted it their way so nobody was satisfied. It's a bad situation," says the soft-spoken 84 year-old.

Like all residents and nurses at the home, "we try to make the best of it. It's pretty hard though," she says.

Ideally, the future Hyland Crest would have only semi and fully private rooms, a centralized nursing station, better security system to keep watch over patients who may wander and specialized washroom facilities, says Adjuvant Linda Fry.

"I think we have to take into account the special needs of residents today and do everything to maintain their dignity and self esteem. Hyland Crest served its purpose in the past but it's time to look to the future," says Fry.

Hyland Crest Administrator Gary McKnight says the goal is to bring the home up to semi-private standards in the future with bathrooms in each room.

As government programs and policies aim more and more at allowing seniors to stay in their homes later in life, "the residents we are admitting are going to need heavier and more extensive care," says

McKnight. Care which the home isn't equipped to offer.

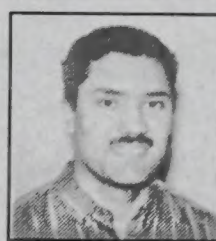
For example, he points to the lower level which houses mostly residents with Alzheimer's or other dementia-related illnesses. "The area is not appropriate for these residents. People with Alzheimer's like to be able to wonder and the location isn't suitable. It should be a circular environment."



CROWDED RESIDENCE: Alice Todd and Winnifred Barnum are two of the 62 seniors who call Hyland Crest their home.

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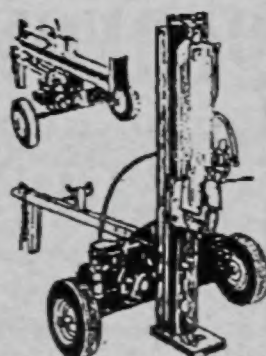
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A sobering prom night message

by Tom O'Shaughnessy
HHSS Student

It is official: there will be at least one polished limousine pulling into the HHSS parking lot this prom night. Stepping out will be Rudy Edwards and date, sweetly ensconced with fresh flowers.

Rudy was the winner of a recent draw held by the local OSAID chapter (Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving) of HHSS. The package winnings include free limousine service to and from prom (courtesy of OSAID and Personalized Limousine Services of Haliburton), \$10 worth of fresh flowers donated by Nancy's Flowers, \$25 off a selected dinner at McKeck's Place and to finally complement the special evening, free prom photos.

OSAID organized this draw as part of its promotional campaign for Arrive Alive Week, a major up-and-coming event.

Arrive Alive Week devotes five days to the promotion of safe and sober driving. Each day a separate activity is presented to further endorse the message.

"The activities haven't been fully decided yet," says vice president Kim Harding, "but they are certainly going to be better and bigger than ever."

In the past OSAID has taken a more passive approach to wielding their message, but in recent years the group appears to be doing quite the latter.

"We have a full-time attendance of 10 committee members, each responsible for certain functions, but we work together on most things," president Christy Ackerblade proudly states. This was just one of the



READY FOR PROM NIGHT: HHSS student Rudy Edwards will be driven to the prom in style thanks to the high school's chapter of Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving. It ran a special campaign with the prize being a limousine trip to the

prom, flowers from Nancy's Flowers and free prom pictures. Here, members of OSAID, Nancy Brink and limousine owner Marty Grant gather in front of the limo at Nancy's Flowers in Haliburton. The photo is courtesy of Misty Bennett.

first steps to kick off a very busy month and what a way to do it, by giving away a \$250 prom package!

Now, that doesn't mean Rudy should have a couple of drinks just because he's being chauffeured and not driving, so I'm

sure that Marty Grant, his driver, will be advised on how not to stock the bar!

Hats off to everyone at OSAID. We look forward to Arrive Alive Week and the other great surprises awaiting us.

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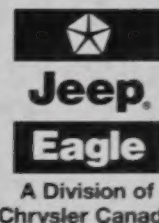
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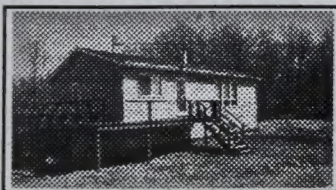
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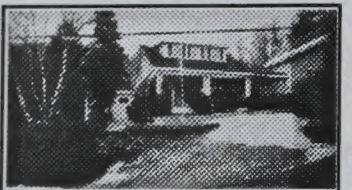
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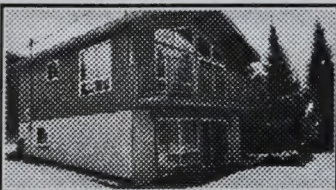
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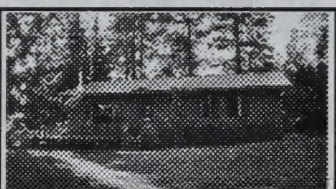
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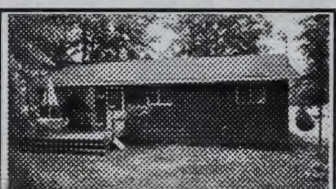


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Lot 21	\$19,900.	134' "
Lot 22	\$19,900.	310' corner lot
Lot 23	\$19,900.	171' X irregular
Lot 24	\$19,900.	124' "
Lot 25	\$19,900.	126' "
Lot 26	\$19,900.	119' "
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Lot 36	\$99,000.	128' lakefront lot
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Lot 43	\$19,900.	125' X irregular
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